(b) whether due to on-going work of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council to build up tourist park at Jorepokhri, Salamander will face total extinction from the planet; and

(c) the action proposed to save Salamander from extinction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Salamander is found in other parts of Darjeeling district as well

(b) Construction of tourist lodge at Jorepokhri has affected the breeding of Salamander.

(c) West Bengal Government has constituted an Expert Committee to look into various aspects of conservation of Salamander in Darjeeling district.

Central Assistance to Darjeeling Zoological Garden

919. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government are not paying their share to Darjeeling Zoological Garden authorities for years; and

(b) the year-wise break-up of Central assistance given to Darjeeling Zoo for 1990-91 to 1999-2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) The assistance provided to Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, Darjeeling by Central Government of India is given below. After establishment of the Central Zoo Authority in 1991-92, the plan funds are routed through the

authority

(Rs. In lakhs)

SI. No	Year	Non-Plan	Plan	Total
1.	1990-91	14.67	9.00	23.67
2.	1991-92	7.01	13.65	20.66
3.	1992-93	6.40	7.00	13.40
4.	1993-94	6.40	19.75	25.75
5.	1994-95	6.40	13.42	19.82
6.	1995-96	6.40	17.05	23.45
7.	1996-97	6.40	6.38	12.78
8.	1997-98	12.40	28.81	41.21
9.	1998-99	12.40	19.06	31.46
10.	1999-2000	10.00 (till date)	11.37 (till date)	21.37
	TOTAL:	88.08	145.49	233.57

CPCB Report on Pollution Levels

920. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Pollution Control Board has released a report on the pollution level of 70 in our main cities;

(b) whether the report states that 47 per cent of the cities recorded a pollution level of 1.5 times the standard, 26 per cent were 1 to 1.5 times the standard, 24 per cent were 0.5 to 1.0 times the standard, 3 per cent were 0.5 times the standard; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to eliminate this hazard to the health of our citizens, especially in the urban areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) report on "Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Status-